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NASHVILLE TN 37203

JUN 21 1974

Due to the large size of the Dallas Convention Center Hall, this year's official SBC photo is in two parts, left and right, above. (David Clanton photo.)

Many Actions, Strong Program Feature Dallas SBC

Sin Caused Watergate, SBC Told By Graham

DALLAS (BP)—Sin caused Watergate, Evangelist Billy Graham told some 25,000 Southern Baptists here. Graham addressed the closing session of the 117th Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas. Messengers completely filled one huge hall and part of another where Graham was on closed circuit television. "Our world is a world of despair, confusion, frustration, anger and hope all mixed into one. Despair, anxiety, fear, insecurity, uncertainty, disappearance of values, crumbling institutions, disillusionment with the scientific technocrat... turmoil, shaken by war," Graham said. "The world is reaching out for an answer. It wants its palm read, seeks an exorcist, flocks to see a movie like 'The Exorcist,' follows the dark stars of astrology. "Our world is longing for reassurance, longing for peace, certainty, the voice of authority. At no time in history has the world been so eagerly looking for a messiah, a fuhrer, a leader... a Mr. Clean... the perfect man.

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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION
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Southern Baptists In Dallas

An Editorial Report

It is great to be a Southern Baptist! There is something about an annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention which makes one who has attended feel just that way. That certainly was true in Dallas last week. Southern Baptists have not had a greater convention in a number of years. It was "Texanic" in every way! We have always heard that they do things in a big way in Texas. If this is true, Southern Baptists in Dallas simply followed the state's practice. The convention was the largest in history, with over 18,160 messengers, and many other visitors. There literally were acres of Baptist. The convention hall evidently is the largest in which the convention ever has met. It is the size of five football fields, and if we remember right that is more than five acres. It was well filled at several sessions, and overflowing on one or two occasions. Adjacent to the giant convention hall, which had 19,000 seats, there was a coliseum, site of the WMU meeting, with 8,000 capacity. In addition there were exhibit areas, parking sections, a cafeteria, other meeting rooms, vast corri-

dors, etc. Dallas has prepared well for large conventions. An unusual feature used for the first time at a Southern Baptist convention was the giant screens, 25x36 feet in size, upon which were projected full color pictures of action at the speaker's stand, on the stage, and elsewhere in the auditorium. Even with many thousands of persons present, each messenger had a clear view of what was happening and being said. Five television cameras were used and the coverage was tremendous in its effectiveness. There were other things of massive proportions in this meeting. The program itself could be classed as outstanding. Some of the greatest preachers and other religious leaders in America were among the speakers. The vice-president of the United States and the governors of two states, appeared on the convention program or at auxiliary meetings. The music was great, with large choirs such as a 500 voice choir from First Baptist Church, Dallas; a 200 voice choir from First (Continued On Page 4)

DALLAS, June 13 — In a paradoxical series of actions, the 117th annual Southern Baptist Convention rejected recommendations uplifting the role of women in the church, yet left completely up to the local church the question of ordination of women.

The convention elected its first black officer and adopted a strongly-worded recommendation from its Christian Life Commission on race relations; yet rejected a proposal to set up a quota system for minority representation on its boards of trustees.

It came close to reversing or contradicting previous convention - approved stands on world peace and abortion after emotion - charged debates against controversial sections of resolutions.

During a packed agenda of business, the convention also elected Jaroy Weber of Lubbock, Tex., as the new convention president; adopted a record \$40 million budget, approved appointment of a committee to study changing the name of the SBC, tabled a motion to create a new commission on evangelism, and authorized a study of world mission strategy for the denomination.

Dominating the three - day business session of the 12.3 million - member denomination was the question of women's role in the church.

In the controversial matter of ordination of women — and the whole spectrum of the woman's role in the church — messengers retained the status quo.

In effect, decisions by messengers sent the questions back home to the nearly 35,000 churches across the nation.

The matter of ordination of women



Cooper Delivers Message

as deacons and ministers has been boiling for several months. It was intensified by recent ordination of women as deacons in scattered parts of the nation and in particular by ordination of two women to the chaplaincy ministry. There are about 12 to 15 women who have been ordained to the ministry by local Southern Baptist churches.

In returning the matter to the churches, the messengers:

—Rejected a constitutional amendment by Tom Reynolds of Lubbock, Tex. which would have forbidden SBC boards and agencies from endorsing anyone but men to the military and institutional chaplaincy.

—Slapped down a Christian Life Commission report which included a general statement recommending SBC agencies and churches elect "women to positions of leadership for which God's gifts and the Holy Spirit's calling equip them." Some saw this as a tacit endorsement of women deacons and pastors.

—Rejected by an overwhelming majority of CLC recommendation that SBC agencies and boards include on their boards at least twenty percent women. The rejection seemed more in reaction to the quota system than to that of female representation.

Two opposing resolutions introduced early in the convention on women's role in the church never reached the floor of the convention for a vote by the messengers. Both were killed

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Press Conference Reveals Ideas Of New SBC President

DALLAS (BP) — Even worse than the shocking language used by President Nixon as revealed by the Watergate tapes is the apparent way the

President has manipulated people, the newly-elected President of the Southern Baptist Convention said in a news conference here.

Jaroy Weber, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Lubbock, Tex., and new president of the nation's largest non - Catholic denomination, said however he did not feel the President should step down.

"We need to follow due process... to leave it in the hands of those who are responsible for making these decisions," he explained.

Weber said that Christians everywhere have been "shocked and embarrassed by the language used" by the President.

But even worse is the misuse of human beings, and the apparent manipulation of people who work under the President, Weber said.

He called the Watergate controversy "the most divisive issue in American history, even greater than the revolution," but he expressed hope America would emerge with an even stronger moral fibre leading to a great spiritual revival.

Declaring he felt thrust into the job through the leadership of God, Weber said he favored a new name for the convention, could not support at this time the ordination of women as deacons in his church and sees no theological "storm clouds" on the horizon that might divide the denomination.

Weber, speaking to newsmen following his election as SBC president, declined to positionize himself on the question of a proposed new commis-

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SBC FIRST FAMILY—Jaroy Weber (l), pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock, was elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention Tuesday. Attending the convention with him were family members Nettie (seated), his wife; a daughter, Nettie, a music evangelist; and son Billy, a Dallas pastor. (David Clanton Photo)

Mississippians Prominent At Dallas

DALLAS — Numerous Mississippians took active parts and assumed prominent roles at the Dallas meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention held last week.

In addition to the above, two native Mississippians were elected to important posts in the life of Southern Baptists.

Mississippi was in the spotlight at the convention as Dr. Owen Cooper, of Yazoo City, president, presided over most of the sessions in which many and varied actions were taken by the body.

Miss Carolyn Weatherford, now of Florida, but a native of the Magnolia State, was elected by Woman's Missionary Union in its annual meeting in Dallas as the new executive secretary, succeeding Miss Alma Hunt, who retired.

Rev. Charles King, now of Kentucky but a native of Mississippi, was the first black man ever elected as an officer of the convention when he was named as second vice - president.

Named to the convention's committee on committees from the state were Rev. Lucius B. Marion of Clarksdale and J. D. Thomas of Hattiesburg.

Cooper Walton of Jackson served on the registration credentials committee.

Elected from Mississippi to serve on the committee on boards for 1975 were Rev. Danny L. Prater of Lyon and Clyde C. Bryan of Jackson.

Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins of Jackson was a member of the Annuitant Study Committee that reported to the convention in Dallas.

Mrs. Maurice Clayton of Jackson presided over the Ministers' Wives Conference as president and Mrs. P. A. Michel of Brookhaven was elected as corresponding secretary.

New members named to the various boards, agencies and commissions of the convention from Mississippi were the following:

Christian Life Commission, Dr. Dudley Wilson, Jackson; Foreign Mission Board, Rev. James Richardson, Leland; New Orleans Seminary, Rev. Frank Gunn, Biloxi; Midwestern Seminary, Dr. John Traylor, Gulfport; Stewardship Commission, Rev. Howard Taylor, Greenville; Executive Committee, Dr. Owen Cooper, Yazoo City.

Al Fairchild of Moselle was elected as a state director of the newly-formed Southern Baptist Bus Ministry Association while Mrs. Molly Fairchild of Moselle was on the program during part of the organization.

The combined Youth and Sanctuary choir of the First Baptist Church of Jackson, under direction of Larry Black, minister of music of the church.

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Look At What Is Right, V-P Ford Urges Baptists

By Jim Newton
DALLAS (BP)—Vice President Gerald Ford, addressing more than 1,500 Baptists at a breakfast climaxing the Southern Baptist Convention, called on the nation to take a positive look at what's right with the nation. "We've heard so much about what's wrong, the time has come to take a more positive look—a new assessment of our potential for human growth," the Vice President said. At the breakfast workshop sponsored by the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission, Ford went on to express pride in the current peace mission to the Middle East by President Richard Nixon and Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "The detractors would do well to dwell on the high purpose that the

President and the Secretary of State are pursuing as emissaries of peace," Ford said, as the overflow crowd in the Statler Hilton Hotel Ballroom responded with applause.

"Let us all pray for their success for us and for the world, and I know that you share my faith that they can and must succeed."

He told the crowd he felt America should take renewed pride in the fact that the "tormented peoples of the Middle East turned to us and trusted us. They turned to no other nation of the world to act as the mediator of peace."

He also expressed pride that the President has established new relationships with the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China, and that

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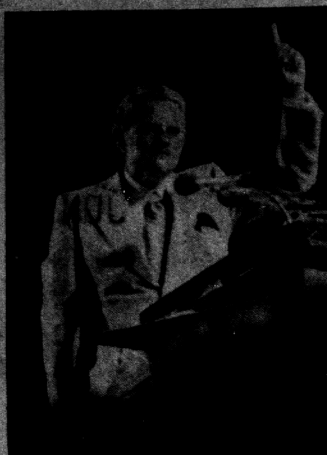


SBC OFFICERS—Officers elected for the Southern Baptist Convention this week are (left to right) President Jaroy Weber, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lubbock; Rev. Stewart B. Simms, first vice-president, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greer, S. C.; and Rev. Charles King from Frankfort, Ky., second vice president, the first black person ever elected an officer of the nation's largest Protestant denomination. (David Clanton Photo)

SBC Program Personalities



R. J. Robinson



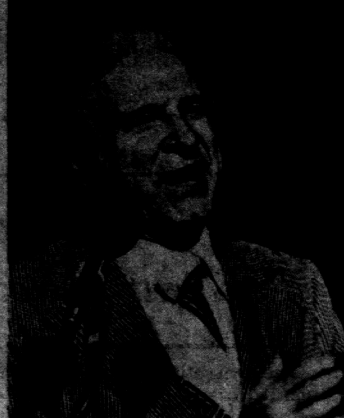
Billy Graham



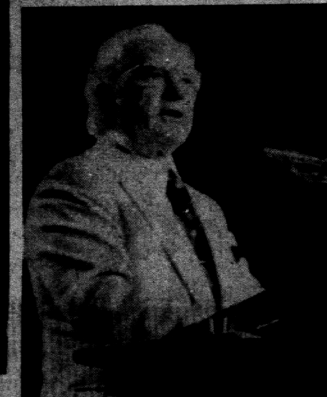
Dr. and Mrs. James Sullivan



Dr. and Mrs. Grady Cothen



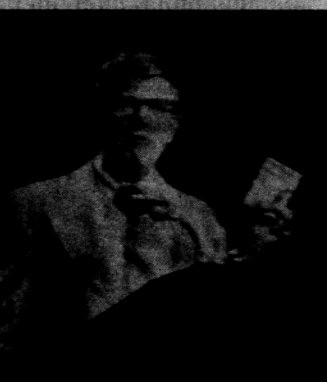
W. A. Criswell



Glenn Archer



R. G. Lee



Wayne Dehoney



Edith Montroy



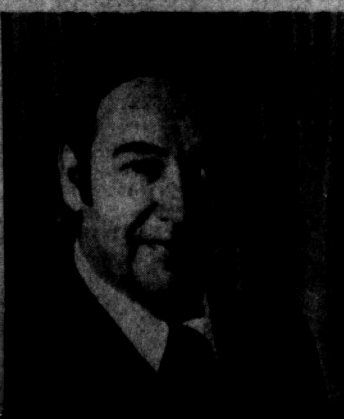
W. C. Fields, left, and Georgia's Governor Jimmy Carter



Owen Cooper and W. O. Vaught



Peyton Moore



Two of the newly-elected officers for the 1975 Pastors' Conference, President James Pleitz, (r) from Pensacola, Fla., and Don Dyer of First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La., vice president, met at the close of the 1974 session. Joe Bob Mizell of Alabama, secretary-treasurer, was not present. (David Clinton Photo).

Many Actions At Dallas SBC

(Continued From Page 1)

by the convention's resolutions committee.

One resolution on the subject of "unisex" was introduced by Mrs. Richard Sappington of Houston, Tex., and the other on the full equality of the sexes was introduced by Gerald Mann, pastor of University Baptist Church in Austin, Tex., which earlier this year ordained three women as deacons.

It was Mrs. Sappington, wife of the pastor of Houston's Cloverleaf Baptist Church, who was the main spokesman in opposition to the Christian Life Commission's four-point recommendations on the role of women in the church.

The outspoken woman, dressed in a flowing white robe, led a successful campaign to defeat the quote proposed and to table recommendations from the commission stating that "in Christ, there is neither male nor female" and urging Baptists to work against discrimination against women in society and in the church by providing equal pay for equal work and electing women to positions of leadership.

Although Mrs. Sappington, described as a "militant anti-feminist," got approval of almost everything she asked on the convention floor, her resolution on "unisex" was never reported back to the convention floor by the resolutions committee.

In effect, however, she won the same point with the rejection of the Christian Life Commission statement which pointed out that the Bible teaches "that every individual has infinite worth, and that in Christ there is neither male nor female." Her resolution had argued that this same biblical concept had been interpreted to mean "there is no difference in the roles of the sexes in the social, secular, home or church life."

Last year, Mrs. Sappington made headlines when she introduced a resolution adopted by the SBC in Portland condemning the women's liberation movement and stating the Christ is the head of every man, man is the head of woman, children are in subjection to their parents, and that "man was not made for the woman but the woman for the man."

Debate raged almost as fiercely on the issues of abortion and peace as they did on women's role in the church.

On abortion, the convention overwhelmingly reaffirmed a 1971 resolution approving of abortion in cases of "rape, incest, clear evidence of likelihood of damage to the emotional, mental and physical health of the mother," in spite of emotional pleas on both sides of the issues.

Heated debate also generated over a resolution on "peace" which took the same basic stance as previous convention statements. Convention President Owen Cooper ruled that the resolution was defeated after criticism of a clause that one messenger claimed might be a first step toward approval of amnesty for draft-dodgers.

Later, the messengers, who recorded an all-time registration total in excess of 18,166, reconsidered the action after two well-known pastors lamented that the SBC could not go on record as turning down a resolution on peace. Instead, the messengers rewrote the resolution from the floor, deleting the statements that recognized that each individual should determine "God's will concerning participation in war."

Though the convention rejected the Christian Life Commission's recommendations on women's role in the church, it approved strongly worded recommendations on race relations, economic life of the nation and integrity in government.

Though it made no mention of Watergate, the recommendation asked Baptists to pray for government leaders "that we may be delivered from the current malignancy of deceit, distrust and discord;" and urged commitment to "to exposure of evil at every level of government... and to bring to justice any and all who have used government for criminal purposes."

On race relations, the commission urged Baptist agencies to promote programs and establish employment practices that show "that racism is theologically untenable, politically destructive and fatally dehumanizing." It also urged all Baptist churches to resist the temptation to practice racially selective evangelism, missions and ministry and "to accept the obligation to share Christ's love and Christian fellowship regardless of race."

The convention refused, however, to adopt an amendment to the recommendation which lashed out at "inverted racism," by requiring quotas of racial representation on SBC boards.

Amendment Defeated
Earlier, the convention had soundly defeated a constitutional amendment which proposed that 10 percent of all trustees for Baptist agencies be representatives of ethnic minorities.

Later in the convention, the messengers elected the first black in history

as an officer of the 12.3 million-member convention.

Named as second vice president was Charles King, 78-year-old pastor of Corinthian Baptist Church in Frankfort, Ky., a black church jointly affiliated with the Kentucky Baptist Convention and the General Association of Baptists in Kentucky.

Elected first vice president was Stewart Sims, pastor of First Baptist Church, Greer, S.C. Re-elected were Clifton J. Allen of Winston-Salem, N.C., recording secretary; W. Fred Kendal, of Nashville, registration secretary; and Porter W. Routh of Nashville, treasurer.

The messengers approved without debate a \$40 million budget goal for 1974-75, which includes \$36 million for operating needs, \$1 million for capital needs and \$3 million as a "challenge goal" to be divided among SBC agencies according to their operating budget allocations.

The convention authorized appointment of a special seven-member committee to make a comprehensive study of the work of the SBC Executive Committee, and later in the convention gave the same committee another major assignment.

W. A. Criswell, pastor of the 18,000-member First Baptist Church of Dallas, had presented a motion asking the convention officers to name a seven-member committee to study the possibility of changing the name of the 129-year-old convention. Criswell's motion, adopted overwhelmingly, was referred to the seven-member committee asked to study the work of the Executive Committee.

Another motion suggesting creation of a Commission on Evangelism as a new agency of the convention was tabled by vote of the messengers, after the SBC Home Mission Board president reported its directors had named a blue-ribbon committee to study the status and role of its Evangelism Division. The committee may also consider changing the name of the board of "National Missions and Evangelism Board."

In other actions, the convention approved almost 20 recommendations from its Executive Committee, most of them dealing with such routine convention operations such as charter changes, program statements and bylaw revisions.

The recommendations included two suggestions emphasizing the observance of the 50th anniversary of the Cooperative Program, the denomination's unified budget plan that supports the total mission program of the convention.

Another recommendation called for creation of a special 21-member committee to make a study of world mission strategy coordinating the efforts of the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

During an inspirational session on foreign missions, Southern Baptists were challenged to respond to the overwhelming world need of starving children who are dying in West Africa and millions who have never heard the name of Jesus. Baptists were asked to "pray for boldness to confront these and other missions problems with love, compassion and conviction."

During an emphasis on home missions, the messengers were urged to cross cultural barriers in the United States with the gospel and minister to ethnic in the name of Christ. The board's first black department head, Emmanuel McCall, told the convention there are approximately 70,000 blacks already in Southern Baptist churches.

Tribute To Retiring Executives
The SBC paid tribute to three retiring executives, James L. Sullivan of the Sunday School Board, Alvin Hunt of the Woman's Missionary Union and Olin T. Binkley of Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

The messengers were also introduced to their successors: Grady C. Cothen of the Sunday School Board, Carolyn Weatherford of the WMU, and Randall Lolley of the seminary.

Although no official statements came from the convention on Watergate, two new convention officers and a major speaker made strong comments on Watergate-related matters during news conferences held at the huge Convention Hall where the 18,000 messengers were meeting.

Weber, new president of the convention, said that although Christians everywhere had been shocked and embarrassed at the apparent language used by President Nixon, even worse was the apparent way the President has manipulated people. Weber said he did not feel the President should step down, but rather that due process should be followed.

The 78-year-old King, the SBC's first black officer, said he personally would like to see Nixon resign.

"I think Nixon has done more damage to this country than any other president in my lifetime," he added that he would rather see Alabama Governor George Wallace as president than Nixon. "At least black people know where Wallace stands," he said.

Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter,

who spoke as a part of the report of the SBC Brotherhood Commission, said in a news conference that Watergate is a "national tragedy and an embarrassment," and rapped Christian people for their lack of involvement in the political process.

Outgoing President Owen Cooper, retired industrialist from Yazoo City, Miss., drew laughter from the crowd when the microphones cut off unexpectedly. "Let the record show," Cooper quipped, "that there were no explosives to be deleted."

The three-day convention closed

with an impassioned message by Evangelist Billy Graham, who also touched on Watergate in his sermon.

"People ask me what caused Watergate: 'I'll tell you,' he declared. 'Sin caused Watergate. But don't go around so self-righteously. There is a little of Watergate in all of us.'"

The next morning following Graham's closing message to the convention, Vice President Gerald Ford spoke at a sell-out crowd of 1,500 at a breakfast-workshop sponsored by the SBC Brotherhood Commission on the theme, "The Challenge of Christian Involvement."



MINISTERS' WIVES OFFICERS—The SBC Ministers' Wives Conference elected new officers during a Tuesday luncheon. Serving for 1975 are (l-r) Mrs. B. J. Martin, Pasadena, Tex., secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Conrad R. Willard of Miami, vice-president; Mrs. P. A. Michel, First Church, Brookhaven, Miss., corresponding secretary; and (seated) new president Mrs. Maurice Clayton from Hillcrest Church, Jackson, Miss. (James Lee Young Photo)

Circus Training And Seminary Valuable To Preacher's Wife

By Mary Ann Ward

DALLAS (BP) — The role of the minister's wife as she shapes an identity for herself, relates to church members and rears her children was discussed at the annual luncheon of the Conference of Ministers' Wives, an auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference at First Baptist Church here.

Officers installed for 1975 were Mrs. Maurice Clayton of Jackson, Miss., president; Mrs. Conrad R. Willard of Miami, Fla., vice-president; Mrs. B. J. Martin of Pasadena, Tex., recording secretary - treasurer; and Mrs. P. A. Michel of Brookhaven, Miss., corresponding secretary.

The women also elected officers for 1976 and installed officers for 1975. The 1976 slate included Mrs. Robert L. Franklin of Cairo, Ga., president; Mrs. Walter N. Stockburger of Nor-

folk, Va., vice-president; Mrs. Leray Fowler of Houston, Tex., corresponding secretary; and Mrs. John Ramsey of Hillcrest Heights, Md., recording secretary - treasurer.

The role of the minister's wife was discussed by a panel which included Mrs. Huber Drumwright of Fort Worth, Tex., moderator; Mrs. John R. Claypool of Fort Worth, Mrs. John J. Hurt of Dallas and Mrs. Forbes Wood of Dallas.

"A minister's wife could use a little circus training as well as seminary. You have to walk a tightrope," said Mrs. Hurt, who represented the view of the church member on the panel.

The panel talked about the tendency for church members to expect the minister's wife to be active in every church organization. Mrs. Wood said she had developed that "I do" syn-

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Educators Asked To Be 'Innkeepers' To The World

By Dan Martin

DALLAS (BP) — A call to be "innkeepers" to the world concluded the 19th annual Southern Baptist Religious Education Association meeting here. Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church of San Antonio, paralleled his own life to that of the Good Samaritan.

"Jesus does not require me to climb down off the mule and pick up the poor beaten man. He does that. It is as He picks them up and brings them to the inn that we can care for them. We are the innkeepers of the world," he said.

The San Antonio pastor called on his brethren to be life support systems in a "warped and diseased world."

In addition to Allen's address, the religious educators heard two other educators discuss trends and methods of education, and elected new officers as they closed their two-day meeting.

It was one of four specialized conferences held Sunday and Monday in advance of the Southern Baptist Convention's three-day annual meeting. Charles Tidwell of Fort Worth, professor of church administration at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, was elected president of the organization, replacing Luke E. Williams Jr. of San Antonio.

Elected vice-presidents were Elaine Dickson of Louisville, Ky., and Bob Bingham of Atlanta, Ga. Bob Feather of Dallas was named president-elect and vice president;

William E. Young, of Nashville, Tenn., was re-elected secretary-treasurer and Neta Stewart of Fort Worth was elected associate secretary.

Registration at the meeting was 443, besting the previous record of 431, set several years ago.

Earlier Monday, Ralph C. Atkinson Jr., professor of religious education at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and Nolan Estes, superintendent of the Dallas Independent School District, took a look at education from their various perspectives.

Atkinson discussed motivation, manipulation and bribes in church life, while Estes peered into the future for a look at what he considered trends in public education.

The seminary professor charged churches often use bribery and manipulation to achieve required results, and often have an obsession to judge the session or failure of an educational program on the single basis of attendance.

Part of the bribery — which he called the familiar carrot and stick method — is offering "air conditioning, pew cushions, bridal parlors, parking garages, bowling alleys, skating rinks, gymnasiums, dining rooms, theaters, Holy Land tours and super-cruiser buses to make the church more appealing to people."

Estes of an see these carrots as bribes but rather as the church keeping in tune with the times. And, most of them are acceptable to us because they are carrots that appeal to us as

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Pastors Urged To Help Lead U.S. To New 'Climate'

By Theo Sommerkamp
DALLAS (BP) — More than 8,000 Southern Baptist pastors from throughout the nation were reminded here that they have a responsibility to help lead America out of its lapse of political integrity and into a climate where the spiritual principles of justice, equality and morality will flourish.

Both the governor of Texas and a former president of the Southern Baptist Convention called for renewed spiritual commitment in American during the opening night "spectacular" sponsored by the Southern Baptist Pastors' Conference at the Dallas Convention Center.

Texas Gov. Dolph Briscoe set the tone for the conference when he declared, "Democracy is founded upon the principle that all who rule will rule with justice, equality and morality—all Biblical precepts inherent in Christian teaching."

Introduced as a committed Christian himself, Briscoe said the "questionable conduct of some people in public office" causes government to weaken and endangers the faith and support of the people in government.

Without mentioning Watergate or any other political scandal by name, Briscoe pointed out the role for pastors: "You as ministers will continue to play a vital, dominant role in building our state and nation."

He said he believes a Christian spirit is "spreading throughout this state and nation."

Former SBC President W. A. Criswell, pastor of the 18,000-member

First Baptist Church of the host city, named high leaders in government in his address following Briscoe's asking the pastors to imagine what might have happened if these leaders had followed God.

He specifically named former U. S. Vice President Spiro Agnew, former Texas Gov. and former Secretary of the Treasury John Connally, Sen. Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts, and President Nixon. — He called attention to what he considered misdeeds on the part of each.

With Agnew, it was "accepting bribes... and kickbacks," and with Connally, "corporate financial maneuvering." Kennedy was accused of "abandonment" (though he did not specify abandonment of Mary Jo Kopechne at the accident on Chapquiddick Island). Though he did not call him by name, Criswell accused the President of using "language that blasphemes the name of the Lord."

After each individual reference, Criswell asked rhetorically what would have happened if the person had turned to God in prayer or for counsel, or had heeded biblical commandments, or had turned his heart and life over to Christ.

In another speech, H. Edwin Young, pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbia, S. C., called the Watergate tapes released for publication "one of the most pornographic and vulgar and blasphemous documents you have heard and the words have come from the lips of the highest elected man on the face of the earth."

He branded it "an abomination unto the Lord." Young said President Nixon may serve out his term in office, but he "has lost much of that authority in the White House."

Young, in the strongest comments on Watergate during the conference, observed that not once during the Watergate tape transcripts that have been published had the President asked: "What is right? What is best? What is moral? What is honest?"

Instead, there are all sorts of political chicanery and intrigue and pay-off and backbiting and subtleties and vulgarities," he charged.

Criswell, who also commented on immortality in government, became the target for criticism in another address — not because of kickbacks, or corporate financial maneuvering, but because of reports he was giving back to the church his total salary earned in 30 years as pastor of First Baptist Church, Dallas. The total amount is estimated to exceed \$600,000.

Another former SBC President, J. D. Grey of New Orleans, spoke to the pastors on various factors in the pastor's life, including his salary.

When Grey reached the portion of his address dealing with the pastor's pay, he inserted these comments: "I read the other day one of our brothers is going to give back a lot of money he's been paid. . . . 'That's all right with me. . . . Every man's got to do it his way.'"

Then he added, "I don't want some tightfisted skink of a church member somewhere to pick up that news story and go to his pastor and say, 'We're going to cut your salary,' and you see preachers all over the country giving their money back."

"A laborer is worthy of his hire," Grey indicated.

Although Grey did not call Criswell by name, there appeared to be no question as to his reference.

The Pastors' Conference elected James L. Pleitz, pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola, Fla., as president for the coming year. He defeated three Texans who were also nominated for the office.

Elected vice president of the Pastors' Conference was

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Thursday, June 20, 1974

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3



The SBC met at the Convention Center in Dallas, or met. The building at right is the Arena, where the pictured above. The building at left is the Grand Hall, WMU meeting was held. the size of five football fields, where the convention prop-

At The Convention Center



Registration took place in the giant lobby.



THIS YEAR'S CONVENTION OFFICERS with the parliamentarian. L. to R.: L. L. Morris, parliamentarian; Clifton Brannon, 2nd v.p.; James Harris, 1st v.p.; Owen Cooper, president.



A view of the crowd, shot from an angle, gives an idea of the vastness of the auditorium.



Television camera and piano, on stage.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS) — New Testaments were published in seven new languages during 1973, translated by Wycliffe Bible Translators, bringing to 39 the number of New Testaments translated into languages not previously reduced to writing.

The Convention President Speaks

The accusation is often made of the contemporary church that it does not move outside the walls of the existing building. No doubt, at times this accusation is true and justified. Other times it is totally untrue and unjustified.

I want to give a graphic illustration of a church that does minister to people who are in need, are not prospects for the church, and who are beyond her local walls.

Recently — June 6 — A car was going through Jackson in route to Arizona when it was involved in an accident. One of the riders was a young lady, twenty-seven years of age. She was injured but the other passengers were not and consequently, they went on. A few days later, the injured young lady was told she could be dismissed from the hospital, but it was then learned she had no place to go. Through the grace of a company, a member of this church — Broadmoor Baptist Church — was discussing the plight in a Sunday school class. A very fine family of this church stepped in and provided a place for her to go — namely, their home. Members of the church have rallied around her need by visiting her, taking her a sunshine basket, and one of the children's departments in Vacation Bible School gave her a Bible. Another Sunday school department called on her and had refreshments with her. It was my privilege to visit her in the home. Upon my arrival, she was reading The Living Bible. Even though she is Catholic by background, she is somewhat amazed at what Christian people do. — David Grant.

CONVENTION COVERAGE

Major coverage of the Dallas meeting of the SBC is found in this week's Record. However, other reports will be found in the next two issues.

Women Urged To Listen To Their World

Annual Meeting, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC

By Mary Ann Ward
DALLAS (BP) — Southern Baptist women were urged to "listen to their world" through a commissioning service for new foreign missionaries, a home missions emphasis on language missions and by a series of speakers at the annual two-day Woman's Missionary Union meeting at the Dallas Convention Center.

Miss Carolyn Weatherford, executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union in Florida, was presented as the new executive secretary to succeed Miss Alma Hunt who is retiring Oct. 5. Miss Weatherford was born in Mississippi at House, between Meriden and Philadelphia.

In a program honoring Miss Hunt for her 26 years of service, Porter South of Nashville, executive secretary-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, presented a plaque on behalf of the executive committee.

The women reelected Mrs. R. L. Mathis as president of Woman's Missionary Union for her sixth and final term and adopted a resolution pro-

claiming support of the Cooperative Program.

Other officers elected were Mrs. Roy F. Snyder of Camden, Ark., recording secretary, and Mrs. Edward L. Byrd of Florence, S. C., Mrs. Gary McNeece of Artesia, Calif., and Mrs. Huber Drumwright of Fort Worth, Tex., all members at large.

In the keynote message, Gardner C. Taylor, black pastor of Concord Baptist Church of Christ, Brooklyn, N. Y., called for equal-quality education for every child.

"The neighborhood concept of education has too often been a mask for preserving privilege based on race and for preserving deprivation, also based on race," Taylor said.

Emphasizing that Southern Baptists worship each Sunday morning in 25 languages, a home missions emphasis presented by Oscar Romo, director of the language missions department of the Home Mission Board, featured seven language missionaries.

Jimmy Anderson, a Creek Indian from Shawnee, Okla., said that while most Indians consider Christianity a white man's religion, "no white man is smart enough to think up something this good. But, by the same token, neither is any red, black or brown man. The gospel is God's way," he said.

Another home missionary, Miss Juana Luz Garcia, who was jailed in Cuba for her faith, said that the United States is the only country to offer refuge to 400,000 Cubans who have fled communism.

Eugene Nida, executive secretary of the translations department of the American Bible Society, told the women that by 1980 the society expects to receive 400 million annual requests for Bibles for new readers.

More than 8,000 Baptists attended



WMU OPENER—Rev. Gardner C. Taylor, pastor of Concord Baptist Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., presented the opening talk to the first session of Woman's Missionary Union Sunday night. Approximately 6,000 people gathered in the Dallas Convention Center Arena for the meeting. (Knolan Benfield Photo)

the opening night session featuring the commissioning of 22 newly appointed foreign missionaries. In testimonies, two couples related that the foreign missions emphasis that was part of the Southern Baptist Convention activities in Portland, Ore., in 1973 was influential in their decision to pursue appointment.

In the Cooperative Program resolution, the women voted to pledge increased support to the Cooperative Program of the Southern Baptist Convention at its meeting June 11-13, proclaim June 8-9, 1975, a special time

of recognition of the Cooperative Program, make the Cooperative Program a focal point of the WMU annual meeting in 1975 and to urge local church members about the Cooperative Program and its role in mission support.

Other speakers at the meeting were Mrs. James Fancher, Jackson, Miss., author; Mrs. Olivia deLorin, executive secretary of the Mexico WMU; C. B. Hogue, director of evangelism division, Home Mission Board; and Mrs. George Beasley - Murray of Louisville, Ky.

Baptists Open Hamburg Seminary To Women 'In Certain Cases'

DUISBURG, West Germany (RNS) —The Baptist Union of West Germany voted here to open its Hamburg Theological Seminary to women "in certain cases."

Women will be admitted when they have a "clear vision" of their profession, a "clear need" of theological education and agree to "find their own place" in ministry.

The union will not guarantee church employment for women seminary graduates, the action said. Male graduates are normally assured of financial support.

There are about 66,530 West German Baptists in 350 churches and 278 mission annexes. Membership last year rose by 1,611.

Admission of women to the seminary was one of the major issues before delegates to the 1974 union meeting.

Orange Grove Calls Hickory Pastor

Rev. H. L. Davis has resigned as pastor of Hickory Church, Hickory, to accept the call as pastor of Orange Grove Church, Pascagoula.

During his eight years at Hickory, the church has experienced spiritual growth, as well as 154 additions by letter and professions of faith.

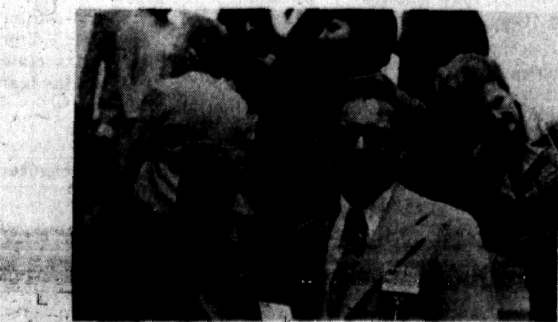
Rev. and Mrs. Davis (the former Miss Rainey) began their new duties June 16. The Hickory Church gave a farewell reception in their honor on June 9.



Baker J. Caughen congratulates new missionaries at commissioning service.



Mrs. James Fancher ('Wilda Fancher, writer of "Beyond the Ironing Board") speaks at the WMU annual meeting.



Mr. and Mrs. Bob Simmons, left, and Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Batson, right, all Mississippians, and Mr. and Mrs. Jeri Wilson, center, (she is a Mississippian)

were appointed as new missionaries.



LADIES' LEADERS—Two incumbent WMU Convention officers and a new executive secretary were introduced to the annual conference on Monday. They are (l-r) Mrs. Roy Snyder, Camden, Ark., recording secretary; Mrs. R. L. Mathis of Waco, serving her sixth term as president; and Carolyn Weatherford, Jacksonville, Fla., who takes office in October as WMU executive secretary. (Cecil Dorman photo)

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Southern Baptists In Dallas

(Continued From Page 1)

Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., and a 100 voice choir which had come from the Bahama Islands, being among the choral groups. Numerous other vocalists and instrumentalists added much to the program.

It was estimated that well over 20,000 were present to hear Billy Graham on Thursday night, and this most widely known Southern Baptist in the whole world was at his best that evening. Yet, almost as many were present on several other sessions.

Despite all of these superlatives and Texan experiences, however, it is not these which makes the Baptist heart beat faster as he thinks of Dallas, and rejoices that he is part of this convention.

The fact is that this was just another of many great meetings of America's largest evangelical denomination. Even though it was the biggest convention the denomination has had, and may well have been the best in several years, it still was, in many ways, a normal convention.

Messengers had assembled, as they do each year, from churches all across America. Inspirational messages, reports and business were much as they are year by year. The reports may have been larger because of the growth of the work, and were dramatized by new methods of presentation, yet this was a convention doing business as usual.

These thousands of messengers had come to the convention to hear reports of the Lord's work as it is being done by their denomination, and to handle essential business related to it.

One who has attended annual convention sessions over a long period of time quickly recognizes that, except for size, it has changed very little over recent years, and that it still is the strongly conservative body that it has been through history.

Charges sometimes are made that the convention is drifting toward liberalism, but there was no evidence of this in Dallas. Actually the 1974 convention moved more to the right than to the left.

It elected as president a pastor who at his first press conference classified himself as a "conservative, Bible believing" preacher. When he was asked to be more specific he stated

that he believed the Bible was "the Word of God complete and without error."

The messengers listened to and gave repeated applause to a string of speakers who proclaimed the Bible as God's Word, Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, the love and redemptive purpose of God, and the witnessing responsibility of the New Testament church. The theme of the program was "Share His Love Now" and a phrase often repeated in word or song was "The King is Coming." Billy Graham put the two together as the subject for his message.

The editor of a national religious journal commented to this editor on the great spirit of the convention, and on the conservative position of the rank and file of the messengers as evidenced by the sustained applause for basic Bible emphases in the Graham message.

Evangelism and missions seemed to be at the heart of almost every thing that was said, with a recognition of the Bible revealed responsibility for the church to carry the witness of Christ to the whole lost world.

The messengers approved without a dissenting voice a \$40,000,000 budget, the largest in the convention history, and set in motion the study of even larger goals for missionary advance.

They discussed freely a motion to create a separate evangelism commission, thus moving this emphasis from the Home Mission Board, but declined to take such action, rather instructing that board to consider a means for enlarging the place of that division in the board's ministry. It was pointed out that the Home Mission Board actually is an evangelism board, but it also is clear that the voice of the convention will bring a strengthening of the program in that board. The board will report to next year's convention what it is doing about this.

The convention dealt with some divisive issues, but refused to be moved either to the right or left from its conservative position on them. Full discussion of these is found in other reports, so it is not necessary to enlarge on them here.

As one looks back upon the Dallas convention, and sees it from an overview, considering all that happened and all that was done, he comes to several conclusions:

1. This was a good convention, and historians may classify it as a great one. It was united in its fellowship, positive in its actions, and calm in its deliberations. It is true that there were times of debate, but these were in a Christian spirit, and the fellowship never has been better. We must pay tribute to President Cooper and his fellow officers for their skill and fairness in handling, and expediting the business of the convention.

2. Southern Baptists still are the united conservative denomination they have been for many years. There are issues in which there is not full agreement, but they are not divisive enough to create serious disturbance. Southern Baptists are not a creedal people, but there is enough unity in their beliefs concerning the great doctrinal truths which make them Baptists, to bind them together as a denomination. When some leader or teacher gets too far afield from this position, there always are Baptists in the family to raise a question and call his hand. The result is that the denomination is made up of churches with a fairly well defined doctrinal position. Those who predict an early split in the convention, simply are misinterpreting the signs. There are far more things which unite Southern Baptists than divide them, and they always have found ways of solving their differences, and maintaining their middle of the road conservative stance. And, as has been said so often, their middle of the head position is to the right of center.

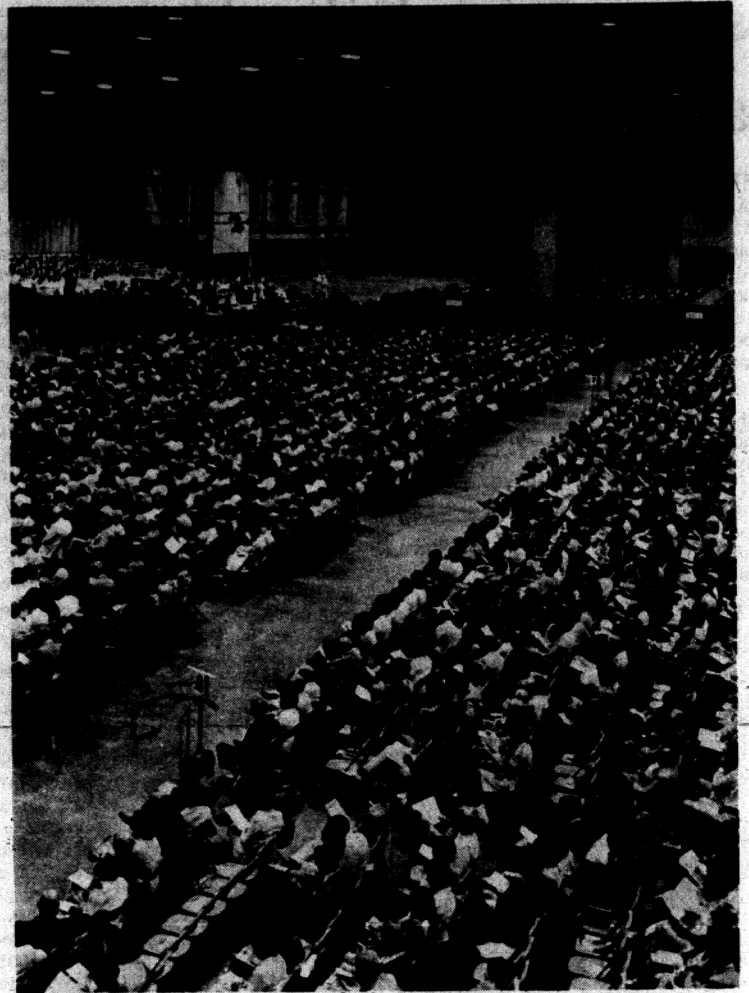
3. As we already have said, the major emphasis of the convention continues to center in the basic concerns of its organizational meeting in 1845, namely, evangelism and missions. All other programs are related directly or indirectly to this. The convention carries on its program through boards and agencies, but even its educational programs center on strengthening the witness of Jesus Christ. Nothing binds Southern Baptists more than this.

4. The local church still is at the center in Southern Baptist organization and thinking. There is not the slightest effort to develop a hierarchical system of centralized church government. Southern Baptists, including both state and national leaders, as well as the pastors and laymen, recognize that the denomination is the servant of the churches, and that its purpose is to carry out the will of the churches as revealed through the messengers under the leadership of the Spirit. There is no stronger base in Southern Baptist life than this.

5. If there was any one new thrust at Dallas, it was a move to enlist laymen in a larger way in the denominational life. Part of this came from the deep concern of President Owen Cooper, who has made that one of the emphases of his two year tenure as president, but it also surfaced in the report of the Brotherhood Commission and in other ways. We can expect to see in coming days a much larger participation by laymen and women both in the churches and in the denomination.

6. In conclusion, Dallas revealed anew the continued growth of the convention, and its strength in Christian witness in today's world. Since it is the only mainline denomination which continues to grow, it stands in a peculiar position. Many believe that the very reason for that continued advance is its conservative, Bible-based stance and program. Meetings like the one in Dallas reveal how strongly it stands in that position and how it is determined to stay there.

This in itself gives evidence that the future of the convention looks bright. Truly, the Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas was a great meeting.



MESSENGERS '74 — More than 18,000 messengers to the 1974 Southern Baptist Convention sat through business and inspiration sessions in the Dallas Convention Center.

Sin Caused . . .

(Continued From Page 1)

Graham said the same thing happened in "Germany in the early 30s but the wrong man rode in on the wrong horse," and in Italy in the 20s and "again the wrong man rode in on the wrong horse."

"Once again there is a crisis in leadership," the world-famous evangelist proclaimed. "All nine of the common market countries have lost their leaders in the last six months. Our own leader is under a cloud. The whole world is looking for a leader."

He said the leader is Jesus.

"The great message of this book (the Bible) is that God has a plan. God has a program. God loves this world. God loves you and this is the thing that makes you important. You don't have any importance beyond that . . ."

Graham said the message of the Bible is that Christ died.

"He died. He didn't faint or swoon. He was buried. He rose again. He is a living Christ now."

Noting the "three enemies of the human race" which were defeated by Christ, the preacher said they are sin, Satan and death.

Of sin, Graham said: "People ask me what caused Watergate. I'll tell you what caused it. Sin."

"But don't go around so self-righteous looking at all the 'bad people.' There is a little of Watergate in all of us. I know some bad people in both parties. I know some bad people all over the world. We are just sinners saved by grace . . ."

Graham said sometimes Christians are frustrated at their efforts to change the world, and commented: "We wish we had more power, influence. But what is going on here tonight is more important than any meeting at the UN (United Nations) because we are talking about the program that is already won. It will be consummated on God's timetable."

"In the midst of 1974, in the midst of a crumbling, confused and bewildered world, I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Not only am I not ashamed, I am proud to be an evangelist . . . a herald of that Gospel . . ."

Graham linked the theme of the SBC—Share His Love Now—with another theme—The King is Coming—as he proclaimed the return of Christ.

"He's coming, not as a clap of thunder, but like a flash of light," Graham said. "Ours is a world of groans. Groans for redemption, freedom, liberation, peace. Groan. Groan. Groan. Groan."

He related a story in which Britons prepared for the return of their Queen, and were fixing things up for her homecoming.

"Fix up," he commanded. "The King is coming."

It would be nice if we could forget our troubles like we forget our blessings.

Always forgive your enemies, especially if they are bigger than you.

Freedom ends when it begins to deprive another of his freedom.

Tradition is the widespread acceptance of something which was at first of questionable merit — and still is.



A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

This week I'll share with you my reactions to the WMU Annual Meeting in Dallas last week. Probably the best way to describe how I feel is to say that I feel exactly the way the Presbyterian I heard about several years ago felt. He came out of the house on his way to work and fell all the way down the steps. He got up, brushed the dust off his clothes, shook his head to clear it, and said, "Well, I'm glad that's over."

It was quite an experience, and though I never did hear any estimate of the number in attendance, any estimate you hear is "way low!" There was some bunch of Baptists there, to coin some Clower-type language.

I wore a long dress for several reasons: The first, I like being a girl, and I think long dresses contribute very richly to the feminine image. The second, no matter how long I take to get ready for a special occasion, I always arrive at the special occasion with a button not buttoned, a hook unhooked, a hem coming out, or a ripped seam, or a run in my hose. In spite of this, I am still a happy, optimistic person and love special occasions, and for this one I bought a dress that had not one button, not one hook, a turned-up place instead of a hem, not one ripped seam (though I did tell everyone near me that if they saw a thread, please not pull it), and long enough to cover those runs.

The third and real reason I wore a long dress was so that nobody could see my knees shaking. Would you believe that they were not shaking? I could hardly believe it myself. But my mouth did get dry, totally dry, for a brief part of each time I spoke.

Thanks so very much for your letters, calls, and conversations indicating your prayer for me. Mrs. George Beasley-Murray, formerly president of the Baptist Women of England, and I were discussing our nerves prior to the Meeting. She said, "I know so many people are praying for me I should not say a word to anyone about being so nervous, but when I woke up this morning, all I could say was 'Ugh' filled with nervousness." I told her that I had felt that way for several weeks back in the winter, but had reached a place of confidence and really did not dread it any more. Just about that time friends from Mississippi walked up, and when I gave facial indications of anxiety, one of them said, "We're been praying for you," in a tone of voice that implied, "Don't let yourself get the best of you."

James keeps a diary, not a secret kind, but one for reference, and on June 11 I could not resist the temptation to see what he had written about June 10, so I opened the book and read: What a day! Wilda spoke to huge crowds at the WMU Meeting. She was nervous, and so was I.

And to borrow some Cronkite-type words, "That's the way it was on June 10."—Box 9151, Jackson, Ms. 39206.

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Joe T. Odle Editor
Joe Abrams Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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A Salute To Owen Cooper

Mississippians can be justly proud of the way that one of their own sons has served as president of the Southern Baptist Convention during the past two years. Owen Cooper, layman from Yazoo City, has filled the office with dedication and distinction.

The first Mississippian ever to be elected to the office, while actually a resident of the state, and the third layman to hold the office during the last half century, Cooper brought to the position his own love for world missions, and his deep concern for lay participation in all phases of church life.

During these past two years he has traveled all across America, and to many mission fields as a representative of Southern Baptists and their programs. Much of the time Mrs. Cooper has accompanied him.

He has challenged groups, large and small, to a larger Christian witness in this crisis hour in world history.

He has called laymen across the convention to dedication to Christ, and to rally to full support of the convention's

program. He has urged pastors, and other leaders, to open doors to larger participation for the laymen and women.

He has urged all Southern Baptists to move forward in the mightiest programs of advance the convention ever has known, programs that go far beyond present levels of achievement.

He has shown that the office of the presidency of the nation's largest evangelical convention is far more than one of merely presiding at the annual sessions. He has done the presiding with remarkable effectiveness, but has shown that the office itself offers opportunities of witness that reach all across the Christian world.

He has received the acclaim of denominational leaders, editors, pastors, and laymen all across the convention.

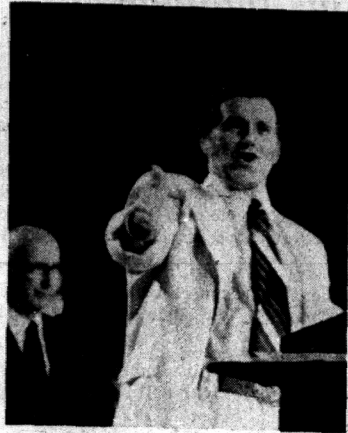
Mississippians are thankful to God that one of our own has represented us so well in the way he has filled this high office.

We salute you, Dr. Cooper, for a job well done.

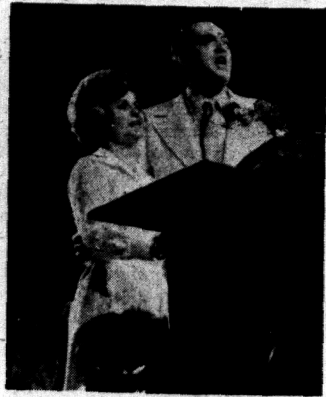


COOPERS CAPTURE CONVENTION—Owen Cooper's family was spotlighted for its backing and sparing of a father and grandfather during a fast-paced presidential term. The outgoing presiding officer introduced (l-r)

wife Elizabeth; granddaughters Edith and Elizabeth Gilbert; their mother, Nancy; another daughter, Carolyn Ladner; son-in-law Dr. Charles Miles and his wife, Fran. A son, Owen, Jr., was not present. (Don Jordan photo).



Cliff Barrows leads singing.



Dr. and Mrs. Perry Ellis, missionaries, sing.



Anne Criswell Jackson, daughter of Dr. W. A. Criswell, is soloist.



Frances Cooper Miles, daughter of President Owen Cooper, sings.



June Hunt sings.



Ivy Walsh sings.



The Centurymen sang for the WMU meet, and at the convention.

Music At The SBC



The United Baptist Choir of the Bahamas sang during WMU and SBC sessions, the first foreign group to appear before the convention.



Children of Dr. and Mrs. Perry Ellis present special music.

Look At What Is Right, Ford Urges

(Continued From Page 1)
American forces had been pulled out of Southeast Asia.

"I ask this morning that this nation strengthen the President's hand when he is abroad on high purpose," he said. "Let politics and controversy stop at the water's edge."

"Regardless of our views on political controversies in Washington," he added, "the President of the United States speaks for us all when he seeks peace abroad."

Speaking on the conference theme, The Challenge of Christian Involvement, the Vice President told the Baptists that the laymen of churches across the nation "can generate a healing spirit of love cooperation, and understanding that can sweep the nation out of the depressive condition that afflicts too many of our fellow citizens."

"America now stands at a very crucial moment of decision," he warned. "We can surrender to anarchy and chaos. Or we can reject negative thinking and get ourselves together and move forward to a higher state of moral responsibility and achievement."

"There are enough men and women

of faith in the United States to think spiritually and think affirmatively and to prevent us from having a national nervous breakdown as the faint of heart fear. We can transcend. We can change."

Ford said he was delighted to learn of the new involvement of the Baptist laity in mission action in various communities and in responsibilities which go beyond the church into the area of public service.

"The lawman . . . is becoming not just a listener on Sunday but a doer every day of the week. And I cannot tell you how important it is to expand your involvement, to broaden your consciousness, and to intensify our commitment to your community and to your nation."

"The church has come to the realization that the job is too big for the clergy to do it all alone. Lay people of all churches must see the broader need to apply their faith where it counts. When the laity moves out of the pews to meet the real problems of our fellow men, then truly will the faith of our fathers become a living faith."

Ford was introduced by Georgia

Governor Jimmy Carter, a member of the board of directors of the Baptist agency sponsoring the breakfast.

In his introduction, Carter said he had great respect for the Vice President. He called him a man who has an open mind and a compassionate heart.

"There is a tremendous untapped resource of talent that exists among our Christian laymen," Carter said. "Just think of the transformation that could take place if only half of our talents were used."

The Georgia governor, a Democrat, recalled that when he was elected governor, he discovered one of the major purposes of government was to help the alcoholics, the mentally retarded, the uneducated, the isolated, the rejected, the black, the Chicano, the oppressed and the prisoner.

"This is a ministry we have hardly tapped among Southern Baptist men," he said.

Jaroy Weber, pastor of First Baptist Church of Lubbock, Tex., and new president of the Southern Baptist Convention, gave the benediction.

Glendon McCullough, executive director of the Commission, presided.

Press Conference - SBC President

(Continued From Page 1)

of evangelism for the convention. "We need to understand all the involvements of the commission on evangelism matter," he said. "The convention ought to decide that is."

The Texas pastor said that he could not endorse the ordination of women as deacons in his church at present because "their influence would be so limited."

The matter of ordination of women is a matter for the local church to decide, he said.

Weber praised the role that women have filled in the history of the church and the denomination and added there are remote places where women could serve as ministers.

Weber said he saw no "storm clouds" of theological controversy that could ultimately divide the denomination such as happened to the Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod.

"We recognize we are a diverse group," he said, "and we have room for people with diverse theologies."

No individual, whether he is a theological seminary professor or a pastor, ever speaks for the Southern Baptist Convention."

Although Weber characterized himself as a "conservative, Bible-believing preacher," he declined to accept either a conservative or liberal label.

Asked to be more specific, Weber said he viewed the Bible as the Word of God, complete and without error. He said such labels depend on the area of the country where the question is asked.

Weber said he had no connection with the arch-conservative Baptist Faith and Message Fellowship other than to be a friend of men who are members of the organization.

The fact that the fellowship's paper had published a story labeling him "God's man for the hour" was no more an endorsement of him for the SBC presidency, he said, than similar stories in publications of the Sunday School Board.

"We don't need any small groups

to tell us what to believe," he said.

"I am at ease with persons of other religious faiths," he said. "I can have fellowship with anyone who knows Jesus Christ."

Asked about a motion before the convention to require that 10 percent of the trustees of all agencies come from ethnic minorities, Weber said he felt there should be representation of all people, but not on the basis of minority status.

"Just to reach a quota would be a tremendous moral mistake," Weber commented.

Asked about his goals for the SBC, Weber said he did not feel any one individual could change the course of the denomination, but he would like to bring more emphasis to the convention on the local church.

Educators To Meet At Ridgecrest

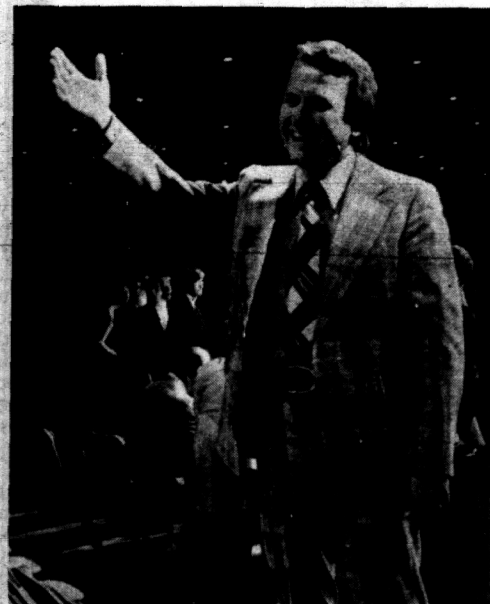
NASHVILLE — The annual meeting of the Eastern Baptist Religious Education Association will be held at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center July 19-20, 1974.

William H. Hale, Jr., associate director of the Georgia Center For Continuing Education, Athens, will be on the program Friday afternoon and Saturday morning in a seminar-workshop, on the philosophy and utilization of media in churches.

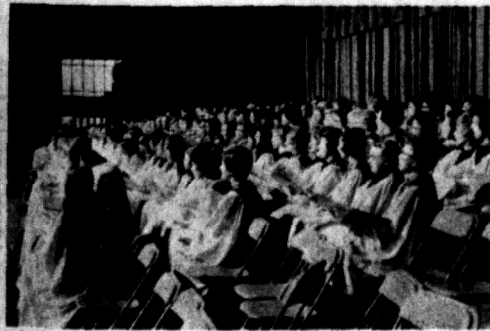
"Discovering and Experiencing the Creative Use of Media" will be the theme for the two day meeting of religious educators according to William Caldwell, president-elect of the group and a consultant in the church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Attending the meeting gives the religious educators "fellowship with people in a common field," Caldwell said, "and an opportunity of sharing major new developments. We can keep up-to-date professionally."

To register send \$20 to James Pease, Ridgecrest Conference Center, P. O. Box 128, Ridgecrest, N. C. 28770. This cost includes room, meals and registration. Persons with private accommodations should send a \$10 reservation fee to cover registration and the Friday banquet.



Larry Black, minister of music at First, Jackson, directed the church's choirs in the special music.



First, Jackson's Sanctuary Choir and youth choir, the Revelation combined to sing at the SBC.



The Jackson choir is magnified on the giant television screen.

First, Jackson Choir Presents Special Music



Rev. and Mrs. Frank Pollard, pastor and wife of First, Jackson, in foreground.



Mrs. Gary Smith is organist, Theresa Stovall is pianist, and Mrs. Louie Odum, the soloist with First Church's choir, above.



Mrs. Evelyn Herm, soloist, on giant screen.

Wonderful Gifts Of God

By G. C. Hodge, D.D.
Ocean Springs, Miss

Notice, they are gifts. They are the very things every person needs. Many people spend fabulous sums of money and time going places and doing things in efforts to obtain them but cannot because they are not for sale or can they be earned. They must be accepted as gifts from God if one ever obtains them, experience and enjoy them. They are:

I. A new life, eternal life (John 10: 3). "I give unto them eternal life and they shall never perish neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand," said Jesus.

We call this experience salvation. It is Christ's free gift to all who accept Him as Saviour and Lord. It is not for sale nor can it be earned. It is God's free gift. I accepted Jesus as my savior and Lord when I was nine years of age and He has led us and provided for us through all the years and still provides for all our needs.

II. That which sustains life (John 14). "Whosoever drinks of the water I give him shall never thirst again."

(1) The water I give him will be in him a well of water springing up into eternal life (2) Living bread. "I am the living bread which came down from heaven. If any man eat of this bread he shall live forever" (John 6:50).

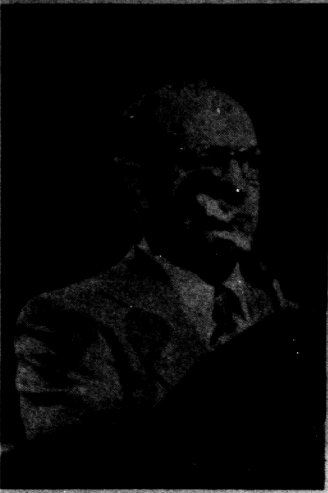
III. Keys of the kingdom of Heaven. This means we have access to God in prayer any time, any place. God said, "Whatsoever ye ask in my name, believing, that will I do" (Matt. 16:19).

IV. A work to do. "The works that I do shall you do also and greater works shall you do because I go to the Father," said the Lord (John 14: 12).

V. Rest. "Come unto me all you who labor and are heavily laden and I will give you rest," here and beyond the grave.

VI. Peace. "Peace I leave with you. My peace I give unto you. Not as the world gives, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid" (John 14:27).

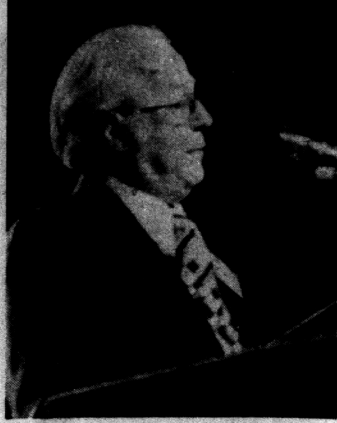
After I buy a stock, it's affected by the Dow - Jones Averages!"



Dr. Carl Nelson of Pelahatchie



Dr. John L. Taylor of Grenada



Dr. Howard Aultman of Columbia

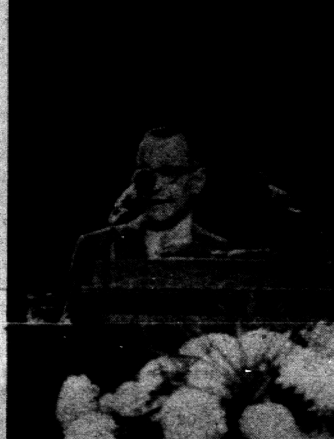


Mrs. Genevieve Zachary of Laurel is congratulated by President Owen Cooper. Mrs. Zachary is the only person in the SBC to have a perfect attendance record for 21 years in SS, Church Training, WMU, and worship services.

Mississippians In Dallas



Dr. Bob Hamblin of Tupelo, left, with Rev. Vernon Dutton, Central Baptist Church, Tucson, Arizona, center, and W. R. Roberts, Mississippi's Annuity Board representative.



Dr. John McCall of Vicksburg



Dr. George Bagley, left, executive secretary, Alabama Baptists, talks with Dr. Earl Kelly, center, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptists, and Dr. Bob Hamblin, Tupelo pastor.

Pastors Urged To Help Lead U. S. To New 'Climate'

(Continued On Page 3)
tore' Conference was Donald L. Dyer, pastor of First Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, La. Elected secretary was Joe Bob Mizell, pastor from Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

One of the speakers to the confer-

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ence, Pleitz encouraged his fellow ministers to become involved in the power crisis, both economic and spiritual.

Pleitz, a former chairman of the SBC Executive Committee and now chairman of trustees of the denomination's Radio and Television Commission, succeeds Jaroy Weber of Lubbock, Tex., as president.

In three speeches to the pastors, Henry Brandt, president of Christian Leadership Training Foundation, Flint, Mich., urged them to reprove, instruct, rebuke and correct their church members on their spiritual life.

He acknowledged it would not be popular, but it was the pastor's duty, and it would result in the members

having a stronger spiritual commitment.

Harold L. Fickett, pastor of the independent First Baptist Church of Van Nuys, Calif., said evangelism is more concerned with getting people ready for the second coming of Christ than it is with setting a time and place for Christ's return.

He plugged lay involvement in evangelism, saying more than 2,000 members of the Van Nuys church are trained in witnessing and practice it.

Warren C. Hultgren, pastor of Tulsa's First Baptist Church, warned of the "subtle danger of doing God's work merely in response to pressure from others."

The 8,000 conference goesers participated in something new in platform watching. Two huge projection screens

were installed on either side of the platform to make the action there visible to back seaters who were about 300 feet from the elevated stage.

Commercial type TV cameras, a total TV master control center, and some 40 technicians set up the system which projects a singer or speaker's face enlarged up to 30 times normal size, giving the folks in back the benefit of a "front seat." Otherwise stage personalities and choirs would have been only specks and masses of color to those so remote from the platform.

Educators Asked To Be 'Innkeepers' To The World

(Continued From Page 2)

adults. You can get a rise out of us only when the bribe appeals to a child as in the case of yo-yos, balloons and Easter chickens to the kids who ride the church bus."

Atkinson added that a subtler form of bribery is "bestowing a high-sounding title on a person and requiring little or no work."

"The church has its ways of manipulation, too. When we force people to go along with us in activities they don't agree with in order to retain our goodwill... we are manipulating them. When we disguise our true feelings in order to get what we want from an unlikable, but powerful church member, we are manipulating him. When we coerce church members into accepting responsibilities out of a sense of guilt, fear, or morbid duty, we are manipulating them."

Summing up, he said, "For the church it is not enough to do the right deed; it must be done for the right reason. Otherwise it is sin. Jesus says even prayer can be polluted."

Estes, a Baptist layman, talked to the ministers about trends in public education.

Noting the religious educators have

Mt. Nebo To Dedicate Building Reconstructed After 1973 Fire

Mt. Nebo Church (Newton) Route 2, Collinsville, will hold annual Homecoming Day and revival beginning June 23. Sunday morning service will begin at 10. Afternoon service will begin at 1:30 with homecoming services. At 2 p.m. there will be dedication services for the new building. (The old building burned in December of 1973). Through the help of the Miss. Baptist Convention Board and many friends and churches, it has been rebuilt.

The revival services during the week will begin at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. The revival team will be: Rev. Gene Henderson, Zachary, Louisiana, evangelist, and Jim Winters, Riverside Church, New Orleans, La., music director.

Dr. C. H. Melton, Newton County associational missionary, will bring the Dedication Message on Sunday, the 23rd. The revival will extend through Friday, June 28.

Rev. David L. Sellers, pastor, invites all friends, members, former members to attend all services. Lunch will be served at the church on Homecoming Day.

Missions Superintendents Urged To Use Talented Lay Persons

DALLAS (BP) — Southern Baptist superintendents of missions were challenged here to lead their churches to the unity found in Christ, to make better use of tools at their disposal and to do something to keep "five and ten talent" laymen and women involved and in the denomination.

Owen Cooper, outgoing president of the Southern Baptist Convention,

told 350 superintendents of missions meeting in their annual session at the First Baptist Church that the "next great burst of Christianity in propagating the gospel is waiting on greater involvement of more lay persons."

Cooper reminded the superintendents that at least 10,000 Southern Baptists will graduate from Baptist colleges this year.

"And I'll bet not 10 of them have been asked to take a job in a pioneer area," he chided.

He challenged the superintendents to utilize the years of training of the some 80,000 Southern Baptists who will retire this year, labeling them "five and ten talent" laymen and women. "Many leave the denomination because they aren't given places to serve," he said.

Lawrence Childs of Charlotte, N. C., was elected president of the organization, succeeding Chambliss. Other new officers are Richard Bryant of Miami, Fla., vice-president; Ray McClung, Little Rock, Ark., secretary; Robert Helmich, Muskogee, Okla., treasurer; and Gene Strahan, Champaign, Ill., newsletter editor.

The superintendents presented Miss Alma Hunt, retiring executive secretary of Woman's Missionary Union, a plaque honoring her for 26 years of service to and in support of missions.

In other business they approved a report recommending that the third Sunday in May be placed on the Southern Baptist Convention Calendar of Activities as a day of prayer for associational missions promoted by the Brotherhood Commission in cooperation with the Division of Associational Services of the Home Mission Board.

a very important role, Estes said: "Education must offer food not only for the brain but for the soul. It requires both to prepare young people for life, and life requires knowledge, concepts, skills and values."

"Knowledge and skills without values are extremely devastating. If they have knowledge and skills, but no values, they become like robots, like the people in Hitler's Germany who answered to any master."

First, Pontotoc Approves Plan For Renovation

First Church, Pontotoc, has voted approval of a plan which will renovate most of the auditorium building. Upon recommendation of the Renovation Committee and the deacons, the church accepted the proposal to enter into contracts with L. L. Sams and Sons Co. of Waco, Texas, to renovate and restore the building for the sum of \$298,245.00.

The recommendation of the committee climaxed a two-year study of renovation needs. The committee is composed of Hoyle Hester, Mrs. Bill Jackson, Miss Hattie Mae Ray, Charles Austin and Dr. R. L. Shannon. Some of the major features will be installation of a new heating and cooling system, complete re-wiring of the building, new walls, enlarging the choir and pulpit areas, re-working the baptistry, adding new pews, and new seating for choir and balcony, new pulpit furniture, a new corridor joining the two vestibules, a new choir suite, new rest room facilities, new carpet, new windows (except stained glass windows), all new doors, quarry tile on both porches and steps, and numerous other improvements.

The work is scheduled to begin in mid-August and will be completed by mid-November.

According to the pastor, Dr. W. Levon Moore, the chief purpose of the program is "to restore our beautiful building as nearly as possible to the original design of the architects, retaining all the features which our people love, yet bring all areas into the same condition as a new building."

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The Christian's Hope And The Daily Task

2 Thessalonians
By Clifton J. Allen

Some of the Thessalonian believers became so engrossed in the anticipation of the Lord's return that they lost motivation for daily duties and hard work. They became unstable, addicted to idleness, and involved in activities distracting to others. Paul's first letter was evidently misunderstood and misinterpreted. This became the occasion for the second letter. The tone is different from the first letter, lacking some of the warmth of the first letter, and having more of the spirit of warmth of the first letter, and having

Easthaven To Observe Patriotic Day

Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, will observe a Patriotic Day Service, June 30.

The featured speaker for the morning will be Dr. Earl Kelly, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Other guest personalities will include George Dale, administrative assistant to Governor William Waller; Mayor Houston Case of Brookhaven; and Brigadier General Roger I. Martin of the Mississippi National Guard, State senators and representatives and state, local and federal officials have been invited.

The church will also have an afternoon service beginning at 1:30 with congregational singing and a brief message by the pastor, Rev. Robert M. Hanvey.

This is the first Patriotic Day service which inaugurates an annual event for the church.

Peach Creek To Celebrate 125 Years; Seeks Information

Peach Creek Church, Panola County, Rev. Charles Everett, pastor, is in its 125th year and plans an anniversary homecoming on June 30 to which former pastors, former members and friends are invited. An all-day service will include History Highlights, an old-fashioned basket lunch on the grounds, and a "memory time."

Peach Creek was organized May 27, 1849. Available records show 28 men who have served as pastors there. The church needs information concerning the following pastors listed according to the year they served: 1849 no pastor listed; 1850, Joseph Richard Hamilton; 1851, G. B. Wald-rup; 1853, M. H. Renfro; 1854, C. B. Young; 1855, Isaac Parker; 1857, none listed; 1858, N. P. Johnson; 1859, E. B. Eakin; 1860, none listed; 1861, M. H. Renfro (same as 1853); 1862, 63, 64, no records; 1865-70, H. J. Smith; 1871-72, 1876-88, Elisha W. Henderson; 1885-89, J. W. Lipsey (father of P. I. Lipsey, a former editor of the Baptist Record); 1890-94, J. E. Barnett; 1896, H. W. Rockett; 1914, B. R. Hughey; 1915-1918, J. O. Hill.

If any descendants of the above-named men have information about the pastors, Peach Creek members would like to know more about them. Also they would like a picture of the church building that burned January 15, 1933 during the pastorate of Rev. Walton E. Lee of Como (which pastorate began in 1919). Anyone with information — or a picture to lend — may contact the church through Mrs. Wallace Parnell, chairman of the 125th anniversary homecoming committee, Star Route, Sardis, MS 38686.

Mississippian Leads Montana Conference

Rev. Carl Savell of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, was a leader and resource person in a Bus Outreach Clinic in Emmanuel Baptist Church of Billings, Montana May 23-24.

This was a conference sponsored by the Northern Plains Baptist Convention Sunday School Department. The Baptist Brotherhood Department of Mississippi furnished transportation expense for Savell to and from Montana.

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more of the spirit of warning and correction due to the disorderly conduct of some of the Christians in Thessalonica. This second letter warns that judgment will come to everyone according to his deeds, that certain signs will point toward the coming day of Christ, that Christians should be joined together in mutual confidence and fellowship, and that patience and industry should characterize Christians as they wait for the coming day of the Lord.

The Lesson Explained
PAUL'S APPEAL TO THE THESSALONIANS (2:1-2)

The confusion of some of the Thessalonian believers about the Lord's return explains Paul's earnest appeal and forthright instruction in his second letter. He urged them not to

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Avoiding The World's Way

James 4:1 - 10, 13 - 17
By Bill Duncan

What do you want? Security, wealth, happiness.

All things being equal, most of our desires seem legitimate and reasonable. We want money, popularity, things, recognition, gratification, security, and a host of other seemingly harmless things to make us comfortable and happy. The problem is not that we want these things, but we want them "too much" and "too soon," or in the wrong way, or at the expense of someone or something else.

If what a person wants is based on comparisons, envy and greed, he will never be satisfied no matter what he gets, or how much. That kind of want can never be satisfied. Too many of our wants masquerade as a need, we may even go to God and say, "Lord I need this." But we will never be satisfied. This type of want will become a desire that overcomes us and makes us a slave. This is why in the world's way people call themselves slaves to the world of advertisement or madison Avenue.

To follow one's desires, without thought of the result, may result in conflict and strife. There has always been strife between nations and within nations. But James is saying "But what about the feuds and struggles that exist among you?" Yes, when people in the church start following desires of their human hearts, apart from God's control, then conflicts will arise. A Christian can become a slave in the world's way. Selfishness in any form, whether it be the love of pleasure, self-gratification or self-seeking, is the "friendship with world" (James 4:4) that causes the Christian to be at war with God. He also will be at war with himself.

WHAT IS THE WORLD'S WAY?

In the Bible the word "world" refers to the world apart from God, the godlessness of the world, the world's disregard of God, the world's resentment of the standard of God, the world's intentness on its own way and its refusal of the ways of God.

God made the world for man to use in serving him and other human beings. In this way man becomes a friend of God and uses his world rightly. To use the world as the controller and the dictator of life is to

be quickly shaken in their belief or excited in their attitude but to be calm and balanced in their hope. The source of their confusion is not clear. It seems that some persons claimed to have had an inner revelation or to have received a confusing word from someone or to have had a letter claiming to be from Paul. Whatever the cause, the outcome was serious. Paul urged them not to be carried away by deceit from any source.

The apostle then went on, as we learn from verses 3-12, to say that the Lord would not come until certain other things had taken place. He said that the man of sin would be revealed. He doubtless meant some extreme embodiment of evil. Christ will overcome him in spite of his haughty exaltation and his subtle ap-

peal to unbelievers. Christ will overcome by the words of his mouth, that is, he will make the power of sin inoperative by the power of his truth. We probably should not try to identify Paul's reference to the man of sin with one particular person.

WARNING AGAINST IDLENESS (3:6-13)

Paul's language is strong and takes the form of a command. It is a solemn charge. His charge urged the Christians to break away from any brother living in idleness. This was equivalent to discipline by the church. The problem arose because some of the members became so excited in expectation of the immediate return of the Lord that they stopped working and thus became a burden on the church. Further, they became busy-

one is going on forever without regard to time and eternity. James says, "Look here, wait a minute. Let's stop and consider this matter." Are you living your life as if God had absolutely nothing to do with it? What nonsense!

A cartoon said, "I never bring a lunch to work — in case I get fired before noon." — Wrong.

I thought I might try my luck at this — I have always had a flair for it. — Wrong.

A person who follows the Lord's will can go in joy and confidence-making plans — thinking "If the Lord wants me to, I shall live or do so and so." With this kind of plan, life becomes an adventure. A closed door is no obstacle or crushing blow. God never shows us the complete pattern but one step at a time.

HOW DO YOU GET WHAT YOU NEED?

How's a soul to get ahead in this world? Listen, God is the only one who really knows what you need. He made you different from everyone else. He loves you in a unique way. The only want you can have which is really safe from disaster is to want his will for your life. If this is what you want, and you ask for it in faith, believing, he will give you what you need.

Our problem as a Christian is that we do not always follow the will of God and go off under the influence of the world. You know that the devil is behind the forces apart from God.

But God never makes any demand that he will not give you the strength to meet. He gives grace — his ability, strength and forgiveness — potent enough to meet this and every other evil spirit. This grace only comes to one humble enough to receive it. "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

We must recognize that God is our greatest need and walk in humility. If you are too proud to know your need or to recognize your shortcomings, you will not receive what you really need.

"Resist the devil and he will flee from you."

This grace will give us the courage to do what we should. If we follow the devil's worldly way, then we are in trouble. If we follow the Lord's way, Satan will not win.

HOW DO YOU PLAN?

The worldly way is to assume that

peal to unbelievers. Christ will overcome by the words of his mouth, that is, he will make the power of sin inoperative by the power of his truth. We probably should not try to identify Paul's reference to the man of sin with one particular person.

WARNING AGAINST IDLENESS (3:6-13)

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bodies, trying to excite other members about the Lord's return. Paul reinforced his command and rebuke by referring to his own example during his ministry in Thessalonica. The missionaries had a right to support, but they did not claim that right in order not to be misunderstood as to their motive, also in order to give an example of industry and unselfishness. Paul had given the command that if one should not work, he should not eat. No Christian had a right to impose on others for daily needs, that is, live on the common funds, as long as he was physically able to work. With earnestness, Paul urged the Christians to do their work without disrupting others and to earn their own support.

NECESSITY FOR FIRMNESS

The note of apostolic authority is reflected in verses 14-15. Paul called on the church to take seriously what he was saying in his letter and to exercise discipline in dealing with anyone who refused to accept and follow the instruction given. Paul was not moved by a feeling of personal hostility. He considered the matter involved that serious. If any member persisted in idleness and disruptive activities, he must be dealt with firmly by the church, in Christian love but without compromise and weak indulgence. Paul then added a benediction to invoke the Lord's presence and blessing of peace upon the church.

Lay Witness Mission Planned At N. Columbia

A Lay Witness Mission will be held at North Columbia Church, Marion County, June 21-23, according to Rev. M. H. Waltman, pastor. Forty-two hours of sharing and fellowship are planned, starting Friday at 7 p.m. and going through Sunday. Every age group is to be included.

The team of lay witnesses will be from Texas, Oklahoma, and Vicksburg. Their coordinator is Sam Cross, Snyder, Texas, a retired dairy farmer, deacon, and Sunday School director of the Greenhill Baptist Church. The North Columbia Church coordinator is Landis Herrin.

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Devotional

"Unbelievable"

By Tom Hudson, Pastor, Oak Forest, Jackson

Did you ever discover that you did not believe what you thought you believed? That happened to me concerning the promise in I John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."

The truth of this Scripture was taught to me shortly after I became a Christian. I believed it... but in practice it worked like this. When I did something wrong, or failed to do something that I should have done, the Holy Spirit would convict me of my sin. I would repent, confess my sin, and ask God please to forgive me. However, an hour later I might recall that sin, and I would again ask God to forgive it. If it came to mind the next day, I would again pray for forgiveness. When it quit coming to my mind, I concluded that it had been forgiven.

Then it hit me one day. What if my son disobeyed me and then came with tears asking my forgiveness? I would forgive him. But what if he came back an hour later, again tearfully asking me to forgive him? And what if the next day he did the same thing? It would break my heart to know he did not believe that I forgave him when I said I did!

This is precisely what I was doing with my Heavenly Father. So the next time I confessed a sin and asked forgiveness, I added, "Thank you for forgiving me." And when it later came back to my mind, I prayed, "Thank you, Lord, that you already have forgiven me of that sin."

He really is "faithful and just." He does exactly what He says He will do. But it is still like Jesus said: "According to your faith be it unto you." He is trustworthy. Believe Him. And express your belief by saying "Thank you!"

Churches Asked To Take Part In 'Honor America' Period

WASHINGTON, D. C. (RNS)—Religious agencies were among organizations encouraged to join in observing an annual program to "Honor America" during a 21-day period from Flag Day (June 14) to Independence Day (July 4).

J. Willard Marriott, a Mormon and chairman of a citizens group organizing the fifth annual program, quoted John Adams who said of the first Fourth of July in 1776:

"... This great anniversary festival ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports..."

A feature of the first Honor America observance on July 4, 1970 was an address by evangelist Billy Graham on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. Comedian Bob Hope was master of ceremonies for other events that year.

"Communities from one end of the country to the other are planning celebrations to honor America" this year, which include "backyard gatherings," athletic contests, bicycle races, picnics, fireworks, and special observances by churches, said Mr. Marriott, who heads the non-partisan committee of the American Historic and Cultural Society, Inc., promoting the observances.

NASSAU, Bahamas — Thirty-nine students completed a two year course at the Bahamas Baptist Bible Institute here recently, the first graduating class since it reopened in 1972. The course is designed to train church members for effective service;

however, a number of pastors and prospective pastors also completed it and may later finish a third year of study, according to Antonina Canzonieri, Southern Baptist missionary press representative.

Carolyn Weatherford: A Woman Should Do What She Can

By Toby Drain

DALLAS (BP) — The newly-chosen executive secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention Woman's Missionary Union said here she had no personal feelings toward the ordination of women by Southern Baptist churches but would welcome an ordained woman to her executive board if the woman had been elected by a state Baptist convention.

Miss Carolyn Weatherford of Jacksonville, Fla., said in a press conference she had personally led lay evangelism schools with men in her classes and had conducted worship services.

"I don't feel it has been in violation of the scriptures," she said, "A woman should do the things she can do."

Miss Weatherford takes over the WMU reins in Birmingham on October 5 with Miss Alma Hunt steps down after 26 years of service.

Asked about the possibility of men serving on the WMU board, Miss Weatherford laughed and exclaimed "mercy." One proposal suggested to the convention here is that women comprise at least 20 per cent of all SBC - elected boards by 1980.

"I hadn't even considered the pos-

sibility of men on the board," she replied. She added she felt the Brotherhood Commission "wouldn't need a woman" on its board and she didn't feel the need for a man on the WMU board.

Miss Weatherford, executive secretary of the Florida WMU, characterized herself as "aggressive" and "strong" in her leadership, and said she is interested in persons as persons. She said she hoped to lead Woman's Missionary Union to reach out to women the organization is not now reaching, particularly career women whom she characterized as being more able to affect legislation.

She said she supports continued cooperation between men and women on the local church level in mission education.

"But I don't think we need only one organization," she said. She added that she felt mission ac-

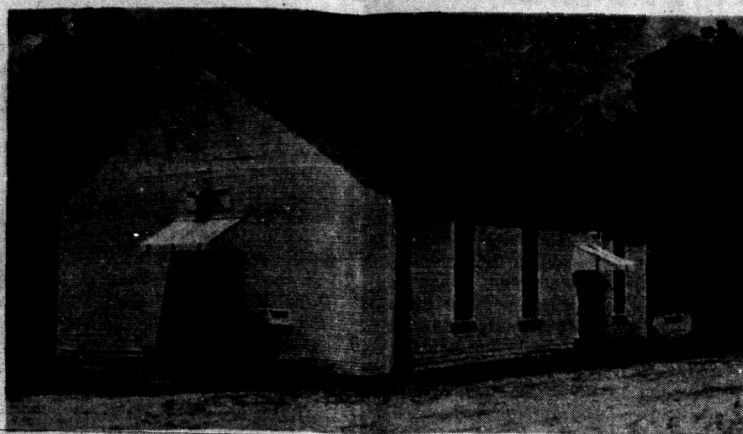
tion and mission education were "part and parcel" and that she would emphasize both.

Miss Weatherford was questioned several times about her own state organization which was shifted from auxiliary status to department status in the Florida Baptist Convention structure five years ago.

"It has been a very good thing for us," Miss Weatherford said. "In public relations, our budget has more than doubled and our salaries are more nearly on par with the men on the convention staff."

She said that the salaries of the women on the convention staff had "moved a long way" and she did not feel it was fair to pay her less because she was single or did not have a family to support.

The biggest mistake is to fear you'll make one.



Mt. Pleasant (Old Sixteenth) To Celebrate 144th Year

Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church is celebrating its 144th year. (The church is located three miles northwest of Chunky in Newton County. The Pastor now is Rev. Doyle Scitiz of Route 1, Collinsville.)

Homecoming will be June 23, followed by a revival June 24 through June 25, with Rev. Woodrow Horn officiating.

During slavery times the church's members were composed of slaves as well as their owners. The first building was a crude log cabin, but later this building was improved by annexing a frame building.

Rev. N. L. Clark, pastor in 1891, gave up his work there to serve as Chaplain in the Civil War. He was succeeded by Rev. Dove. Then came a Succession of pastors serving from one to five years.

In 1874, the old building was replaced by a more modern frame building. Soon after this, the church became non-supporting and N. L. Clark served as pastor this time sent by the Board. In a few years, the church became self-supporting again.

About 1889 or 1890, members of this church withdrew to organize Chunky Church. In 1894 Providence Church was organized by members of this church. Again in 1904 members withdrew to organize Pleasant Ridge Church.

The first meeting of the Annual Bethlehem Association was held here. Records also show that Mt. Pleasant Association was organized at this church, in 1888.

In 1921 the Newton County Association was organized here also.

This church, never very strong, has always had a few progressive and faithful members who have striven to keep in line with all causes fostered

by the denomination for the up-building of the Kingdom work.

From their midst have gone a number of worthy men and women who are active workers for the cause. A former pastor once remarked that this church reminded him of a mother hen who spread her wings wide and protected a large brood.

Prior to 1868, Mt. Pleasant Church was a member of the Old Bethlehem Association, and as they do not have the minutes of that association, cannot be sure when the church was constituted. According to tradition, the first house of worship was located on the Sixteenth Section Land and the church was called by the name "OLD SIXTEENTH CHURCH."

Plans and efforts are being made to construct a new church in the future.

Parkhill To Mark 18th Anniversary

June 23 marks the 18th anniversary of Parkhill Church, Jackson. Changes have occurred over the years, but many of the charter members are still among Parkhill's present membership.

A celebration, including dinner on the ground, is planned. Members and former members are invited. Parkhill extends a special invitation to charter members and their relatives.

37 Years As Clerk

A. G. Horne, clerk of the Hickory Church, Hickory, has resigned due to declining health, after 37 years of devoted service. Mr. Horne's faithfulness has contributed greatly through the years to the church he loves.

Revival Dates

New Salem, McCall Creek: June 23-28; Sunday morning and afternoon services with dinner on the ground; Sunday morning at 10 and afternoon at 1:30; Monday through Friday, evening services only, at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Emerson Tedder, pastor, Macedonia (Lincoln) evangelist; Mrs. J. E. Pickering, Damascus (Franklin) song leader; Rev. Elton Barlow, interim pastor.

Good Hope, Hickory (Newton): June 30-July 5; 7:30 each evening; Rev. J. H. Bethune, Bethel (Newton), evangelist; H. P. Williams, leading music; Rev. E. L. Clark, pastor.

Rock Bluff (Smith): June 23-28; services at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Kenneth West, evangelist; Jim Overby, song leader; Rev. Kenneth West, pastor.

Hebron Church, Grenada: June 23-28; youth revival; services 7:30 p.m. Fri and Sat.; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sherman Barnette, with the Film Ministry of Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, evangelist; Jerry Beatty, Columbus, directing music; Rev. W. P. Miley, pastor.

Providence (Rankin): June 16-22; services at 7:30 p.m. nightly; Rev. Shalley Vaughn, evangelist; Don Lum music leader; youth night, June 22; Rev. Jimmy Sellers, pastor.

Anding (Yazoo): June 23-28; Rev. Buster Wilson, Mississippi College student, member of Richland Church at Plain, and co-founder and director of "Jesus Is Evangelism," youth evangelist; David Miller, music director at Richland and for the "Jesus Is Evangelism" group, in charge of music; Mrs. David Miller, pianist; Rev. John Lee, pastor; services at 7:30 p.m. ("Reality," youth singing group from Richland directed by Mr. Miller, will bring special music. Mr. Miller also directs "Shiloh," which will sing for the Sunday services.)

Immanuel, Vicksburg: June 23-28; dinner on ground June 23; Rev. S. A. (Sonny) Adkins, pastor, Rocky Creek, Lucedale, evangelist; Danny Brock, minister of music, Immanuel, singer; Sunday services 11 and 7; weekday at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Guy Gray, pastor.

Sherman Church: June 16-21; services, 10:30 a.m., and 7:30 p.m. Rev. Bendon Ginn, new pastor, evangelist; Darwin Brooks, church's minister of music, singer.

Names In The News



Walter Thomas Presley, above left, recently surrendered to the ministry and was licensed to preach by Hillcrest Church, Laurel, on May 12, Rev. W. A. McWilliams, above right, is the Hillcrest pastor. Mr. Presley is married to the former Mary Ruth Hembree and is the father of two children. Randall Presley and Mrs. Wilda Fay Hodge. He is available for supply and may be contacted at 4127 Highway 45 North, Laurel (phone 428-5751). Slater B. Moseley of Laurel (pictured in insert) was also licensed to preach on May 12 at Hillcrest.

A graduate of Jones County Junior College, has taken seminary extension courses, and is well known as a conservative Bible teacher. He is married to the former Lola Belle Ottwell of Bowden, Ga. Available for supply, he may be contacted at his home in Laurel or through the Hillcrest Church, Laurel (phone 428-7138).

Hopewell (Franklin): June 23-28; services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. C. W. Thompson, Sr. from Florence, Alabama, evangelist; David Grimsley, minister of music, First Church, Purvis, in charge of music; Rev. Dean Timbes, pastor.

Hardy (Grenada): June 23-28; services at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Donnie Stewart, pastor of First Church, Coffeeville, evangelist; Rev. Charles Jones, pastor.

N. O. Seminary Slates Pastors Conference

Addresses by Dr. James L. Sullivan, outgoing president of the Sunday School Board, and by Dr. Grady C. Cothen, president-elect of the BSSB, will highlight the 12th annual Pastors Conference scheduled at New Orleans Seminary July 6-12.

The program will feature lectures, sermons, discussions, and library study.

Leading biblical studies will be Dr. T. T. Crabtree, pastor of First Church, Springfield, Mo., and Dr. Malcolm Tolbert, professor of New Testament and Greek at the seminary.

On the agenda for the ladies will be a conference for pastors' wives led by Mrs. Marjorie C. Rowden, director of public relations at William Carey College, Hattiesburg, Miss.

Off The Record

A teacher asked each of her pupils in her kindergarten class how near each lived to the school and how long it took to get home. She couldn't help smiling at one little boy's answer: I must live pretty close because when I get home, my mother always says, "Are you home already?"

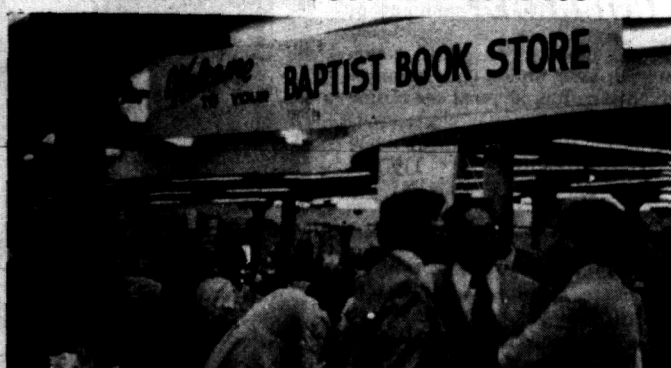
Employers always seem to want alert young men between 25 and 35, with 40 years of experience.

When a Texas school class was told that the next day they would learn to draw, 18 youngsters showed up with pistols.

Convention Exhibits



Dr. Joe Odle, Baptist Record editor, talks with Dr. Adrian Rogers, pastor, Bellevue, Memphis. They are in the book exhibit area, at the autograph party given for Dr. Odle's new Broadman book *The Coming of the King*, and for other authors.



Welcome sign at entrance to Book Store.



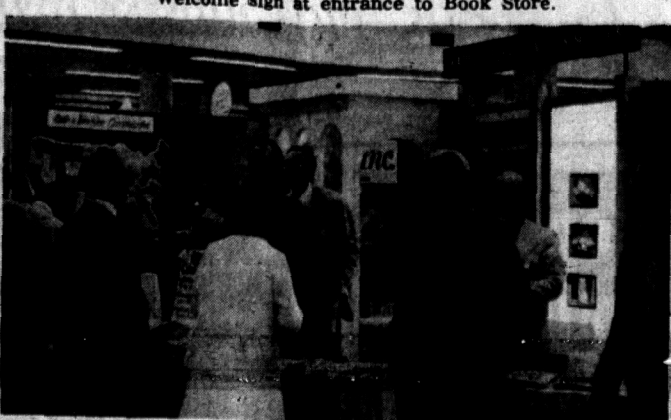
At the New Orleans Booth are Dr. Russell McIntire, Dr. T. J. DeLaughter, both of the seminary faculty, Rev. Arnold Norsworthy, pastor of Pearson Church at Pearl, and Mrs. Norsworthy.



Rev. Robert Wall, right, at the Baptist Public Relations Association SBC booth won an Honor Award in Category C.



Foreign Mission Board exhibit.



Radio-Television Commission exhibit.



Annuity Board booth.